



A&E



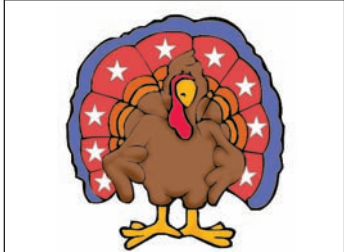
How “The Shack” stands up
“It’s honest. Whether or not it’s theologically accurate is debatable”

WORLD



Tales of studies abroad
“I wanted to be stretched and taken outside of my comfort zone, so I figured Africa would be a great place to be”

OPINIONS



Beyond stars and stripes
“Celebrate Thanksgiving with a fond backward glance to our founding pilgrims”

IN BRIEF

Computers to Africa

Last week, the Computer Science and Engineering department (CSE) partnered with the Center for Missions Computing to donate 32 PC computers to Bingham University in Nigeria.

Associate CSE Professor Stefan Brandle visited the Christian university as a guest lecturer in 2007, and has since promoted a stronger relationship between Taylor and Bingham.

Computer science team

Taylor recieved its best ranking in four years in Saturday’s East Central North America Regional Programming Contest.

The team of Jeremy Erickson (‘09), David Kasper (‘09), and Seth Bird (‘10) placed 10th of 123 teams.

Harvest Moon Film Fest

This weekend’s film festival will showcase Midwest cinematography and feature Emmy award-winning director Roger Young (HBO’s “Rome”)

Eleven independent films will show Friday at the Muncie Civic Theatre, with education seminars on Saturday night.

For more information contact Robby Tompkins (765-281-9503 ext. 23) or visit www.harvest-moonfilmfestival.com

WEEKENDWEATHER

TODAY
55° / 39°



SHOWERS

SATURDAY
39° / 29°



SHOWERS

SUNDAY
38° / 30°



FLURRIES

Students lend a helping hand

Carpenter’s Hands partners with Habitat for Humanity

By Hannah Beers
Co-News Editor

Early Saturday morning, 42 students gathered in a Marion neighborhood, armed with hammers, drills and ambition. Divided in two shifts, they worked alongside Indiana Wesleyan University students, community members, and Grant County’s Habitat for Humanity team to construct a new home for Marion resident Jessica Williams.

The turnout exceeded everyone’s expectations, said Carpenter’s Hands co-director Mike Crilly.

“We got more done than both myself and the construction manager thought we would,” Crilly said. “I think it was a very good start to the house.”

see Habitat, page 2



Senior Mike Crilly (above left) helps to frame a house in Marion. On Saturday, Carpenter’s Hands partnered with Habitat for Humanity to construct a home for Marion resident Jessica Williams.

Timmy Huynh

Not your ordinary senior music recital

Three music majors decide to turn their project up a notch

By Randy Kizer
Co-editor in Chief

Four years of study culminating in a senior recital: this is the norm for music majors. Three music marketing majors have decided to mix things up and end their time at Taylor with a bang.

The team of seniors, Jazz Rolle, Sarah Wilson and Megan Sauder, is writing music, recording a CD, organizing a concert and planning an album release party slated for this coming spring.

The entire enterprise is placed under the heading “The Seasons Project.”

While students have done alternate projects in the form of research papers, no one had ever attempted a full-length recording.

In the fall of 2007, Rolle began developing his idea for an alternate senior project.

“This is the first project of its

kind, so we’re kind of like trail blazers,” Rolle said.

As he developed his idea, Rolle sought input from his fellow music marketing majors.

“Megan Sauder was one of the first people I shared this idea with ... and she said, ‘Jazz, this is exactly what I want to do. Can I be a part of this?’” Sauder soon recruited Wilson and The Seasons Project team was formed.

Since beginning the project a year ago, the team has worked with professional producers, sound engineers and musicians, while also enlisting the help of over 50 fellow students.

Looking into the real world of music production has been insightful for the team.

“I get to experience the inside aspects of the music industry such as marketing, concert promotion, managing artists and so much more,” Sauder said.

As fall semester began, Rolle continued his work on campus, while his teammates Wilson and Sauder relocated to the Contemporary Music Center (CMC) in Martha’s Vineyard, N.Y.

The CMC program has given both women the opportunity to work in a community of dedicated artists and managers. The exclusive focus on music has proved to be both exciting and challenging.

“I get the opportunity to take classes in song writing, performing and recording, and actually put into action the things I’ve wanted to do my entire life,” Wilson said.

The central idea for the team was to replicate the recording industry’s production process while showcasing their musical talents.

“We embarked on this because we thought it would allow us to use all the skills we have learned, both in the music department, and in the marketing and management classes,” Rolle said.

Sauder is already looking ahead to how the experience will help her career plans.

“I’m excited about this project because it’s a great portfolio-builder that I can hand to future employers to show all the experiences I’ve had,” she said.

With the deadline for finishing the CD rapidly approaching, work on the project will quickly shift towards preparing for the concert.

“I’ve been to some good concerts here on campus, but we want this to exceed anything that’s been done here before,” Rolle said.

Plenty of musicians will be involved and Rolle is already preparing for some intense re-



Jazz Rolle

Seniors Sarah Wilson, Megan Sauder and Jazz Rolle will be releasing an album in the spring for their senior project.

hearsals. The current date for the concert and release party is April 16, 2009.

Marketing for the project is also getting into gear. Senior art major Ruth Moorman has been recruited as the graphic designer for their promotional materials. A business marketing class is also getting involved by working out the details of a full marketing strategy. In addition, the team has created both Mys-

pace and Facebook groups to start raising awareness.

Even though the trio is looking forward to holding the packaged CD in their hands, Rolle and the others are making sure to enjoy the process.

“It’s really satisfying, in and of itself, just working on this project,” Rolle said. “I enjoy every aspect of it.”

Deal sounding good to rural AT&T users

AT&T to buy Centennial

By Hannah Beers
Co-News Editor

Last year, students with Verizon cell phone coverage rejoiced as their wireless provider built a new tower near campus.

Now it’s AT&T users’ turn to celebrate.

Last Friday, AT&T announced the purchase of regional wireless provider Centennial Communications Corporation for

\$944 million.

“Centennial operates cell towers on top of the water tower down on Washington street here in town,” said Media Engineer Josh Taylor. “The Centennial towers will become AT&T towers, so AT&T phones will connect to those towers and have improved coverage in town.”

AT&T plans to have the deal approved by June in 2009, and customers should see improvements next fall.

Leading wireless companies Verizon and AT&T have been competing for coverage in rural areas, said Taylor. Verizon acquired Alltel, the largest rural wireless provider, in June; buying Centennial is AT&T’s strategic move to match.

“They’ve been buying out a lot of these ‘ma and pop’ wireless companies,” Taylor

said. “Centennial, who’s based out of Fort Wayne, happens to have a lot of the rural towers in Indiana.”

Taylor believes the AT&T/Centennial buyout will probably proceed similarly to the AT&T/Cingular merger in 2007.

“They’ll probably grandfather all the Centennial accounts under AT&T and not switch them until they renew their contracts,” Taylor said.

The company has been adamant that both AT&T and Centennial customers will benefit from the transaction.

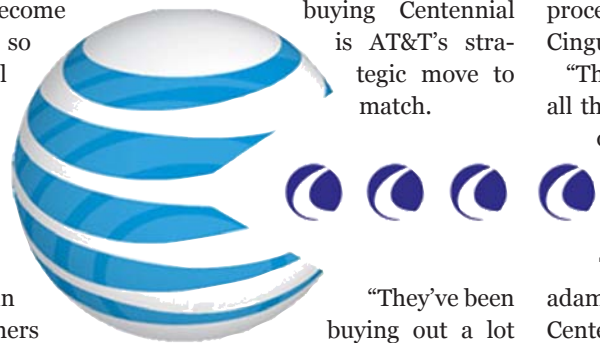
AT&T customers will receive

better rural reception, while Centennial customers will receive the larger company’s benefits and services, said AT&T Mobility and Consumer Markets president Ralph de la Vega in a company press release.

A Centennial customer, Taylor says he has never been without reception on campus.

“The only part of campus I don’t get really good service is in the ‘Dungeon’ in Nussbaum,” Taylor said.

Verizon currently has 80 million subscribers nationally, while AT&T serves 75 million, gaining 1.1 million in buying Centennial.





Timmy Huynh

Sophomore Jordan Krula helps to nail down trusses at the Habitat for Humanity Blitz in Marion on Saturday.

Habitat, continued from page 1

Also present was Williams and her family, eager to watch their new house being constructed.

“I’m just glad that they approved me for one,” Williams said. “I’m excited. I can’t wait to have it all done.”

Jerry Whitton, board president of Habitat for Humanity in Grant County, has seen 42 houses built through the program. He said that seeing everyone – high school and college students, local churches, and neighborhood residents – working together is most rewarding.

“As we’re building homes we’re build-

ing up lives ... not only the lives of those that are going to live in the house, but the volunteers who are working together,” Whitton said.

Sophomore Laura Schmucker was similarly impressed by the wide range of participants.

“You get the opportunity to play with some power tools and get to know people,” Schmucker said. “It was a great experience. I would encourage anyone to do it.”

Carpenter’s Hands is a construction-based organization within Taylor World Outreach (TWO). Originally the Taylor chapter of Habitat for Humanity, Car-

penter’s Hands was renamed to allow partnering with other ministries.

Co-directors Crilly and Elise Acosta have many more projects planned, including a Texas spring break missions trip, and more construction through Habitat for Humanity, Affordable Housing Corporation, Muncie Inner City Outreach, and local churches.

Acosta enjoys seeing the immediate, physical effect of the projects.

“It’s a different type of ministry,” Acosta said. “I really like being hands-on and being involved with people, and this is one way that I can do both.”

“Taming of the Shrew” takes the spotlight

Bringing Shakespeare to a theatre near you

By Emily Bennett
Contributor

It’s been five years since Taylor Performing Arts Theatre has performed a Shakespearean play, and the cast and crew is eager to take on the challenge again.

This year’s fall performance is “The Taming of the Shrew,” Shakespeare’s skillfully woven tale about gender roles and relationship, considered a classic for both its wit and insight.

The story centers around two sisters. Kate, the older sister and “shrew” of the story, is a sharp-witted woman with a very low opinion of men. In order for her younger sister Bianca to marry, Kate must first be swept off her feet. The task seems impossible until a man named Petruchio comes to the town. Petruchio’s friends convince him to marry Kate so they can compete for the lovely Bianca’s hand in marriage. Through Petruchio’s courtship of Kate, we see not only a battle of words and

wit, but slapstick comedy in a way only Shakespeare could create.

“It’s a classic; it’s got everything: action, romance, comedy ... it’s a good production to see for any reason,” said senior Erik Hatcher, who plays Petruchio. “It’s been very challenging to put together, but all the more rewarding.”

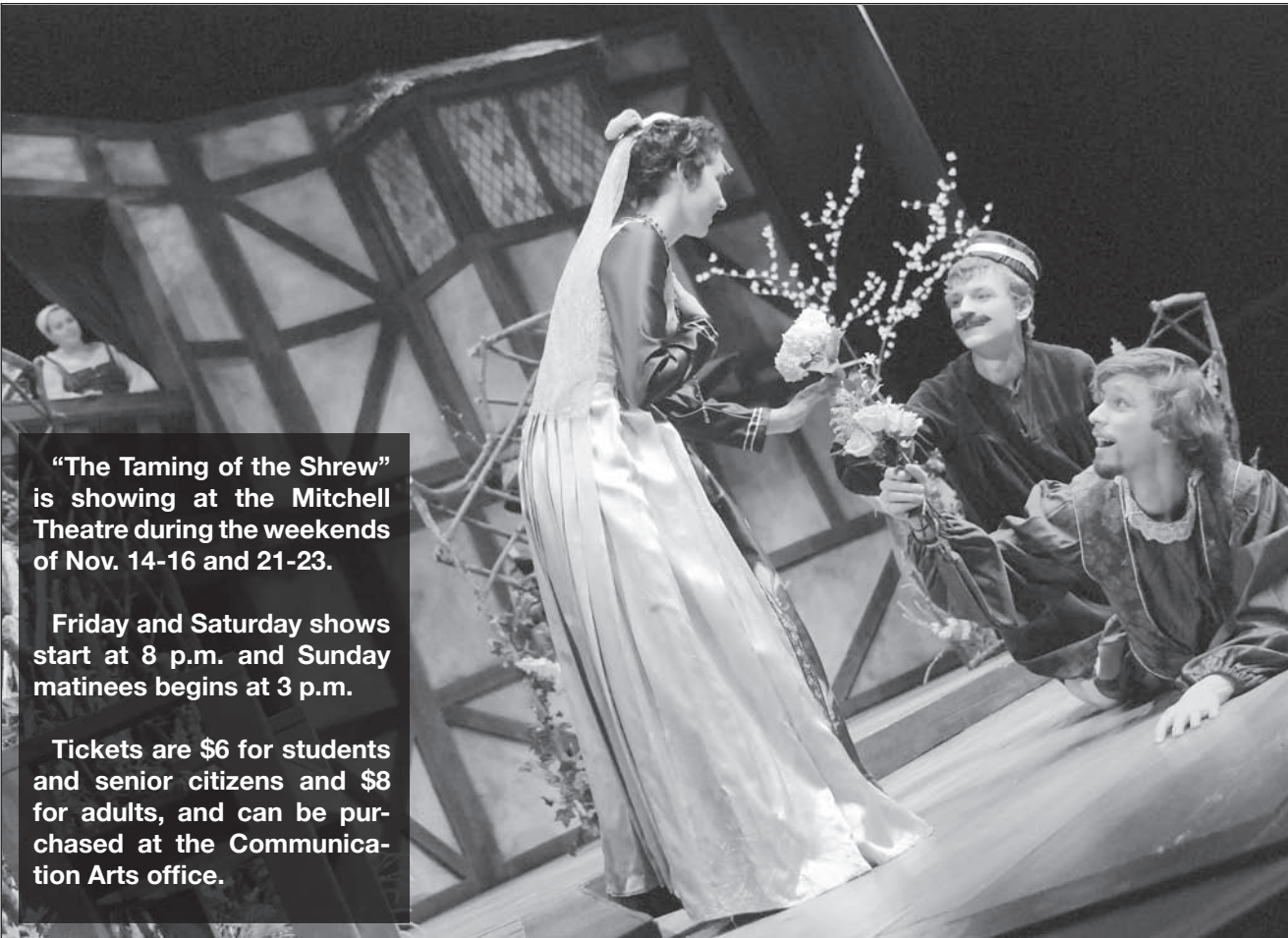
Director Tracy Manning has decided to keep the play in the language and context of the original time period.

Senior Kathy St. Cyr, who plays Bianca, said the unfamiliar language is no reason for audiences to be intimidated.

“This is a good one for beginner Shakespeare audiences to come and really be able to understand and follow,” St. Cyr said. “Just give yourself five minutes of listening to it and you will be easily captivated into the world that you are seeing on the stage.”


Manning encourages everyone – avid readers of Shakespeare or not – to come see the play.

“If you’ve ever read Shakespeare, you should come see it,” Manning said. “I think there’s a new level of appreciation that can come with being engaged in a theatrical production ... that reading it in a book can’t quite do. And it really is quite funny. Even if you aren’t a Shakespeare person, you can catch it.”




Katy Andres

Freshman Justin Chisham (center) and junior Matt Johnson (right), playing Hortensio and Lucentio, woo Kathy St. Cyr, playing Bianca, during practice on Tuesday night.



we read the e-mails you delete.

friday	saturday	sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday
<p>7pm C.S. Lewis and Friends Society Meeting</p> <p>8pm TU Theatre: The Taming of the Shrew</p> <p>TBA T.W.O. Urban Exposure</p>	<p>8pm TU Theatre: The Taming of the Shrew</p> <p>TBA T.W.O. Urban Exposure</p>	<p>3pm TU Theatre: The Taming of the Shrew</p> <p>8pm Vespers</p> <p>9pm TCA Fall Worship Night</p>	<p>Lunch/Dinner My Gen Tickets in DC</p> <p>7:30pm Taylor University Symphony Orchestra</p>	<p>Lunch/Dinner My Gen Tickets in DC Skip-a-Meal (Dinner)</p> <p>7:30pm All That Jazz: Jazz Ensemble and Combo Concert</p> <p>8pm IFC Film</p>	<p>Lunch/Dinner My Gen Tickets in DC WOW T-shirt pick-up</p> <p>5pm My Gen Night Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30pm Faculty String Quartet Recital: Kyung Nam Oh</p>	<p>Lunch only My Gen Tickets in DC</p> <p>8:15pm My Gen Night</p> <p>TBA Global Outreach Event</p>



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The Echo aims to represent the views of diverse voices on Taylor University’s campus fairly and without bias and to be a vehicle of accurate and pertinent information to the student body, faculty and staff. The Echo also aims to be a forum that fosters healthy discussion about relevant issues, acting as a catalyst for change on our campus.

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Study abroad: classroom meets world

Students immersed in new culture

By Chris Anderson
Contributor

As the world seemingly gets smaller and smaller, understanding different cultures becomes an important task for



Kirk Schweitzer
Junior Kirk Schweitzer poses with his host brother during his home stay in Uganda.

those who want to gain a complete education. Taylor offers many classes that orient students to the way the rest of the world works. However, the only way to fully understand a culture is to spend time in the midst of that culture. Each semester, many Taylor students take advantage of this opportunity by studying abroad. Taylor’s study abroad program expects to be ranked again this year in the Open Doors International Education Report which will be released Monday. The report surveys nearly

3,000 U.S. colleges and compares data on their study abroad programs. Three students who are currently studying abroad are juniors Luke Ingram, Sung Ah Kim and Kirk Schweitzer. Ingram and Kim are studying at Hong Kong Baptist University, and Schweitzer is studying in the Uganda Studies Program. All three had similar reasons for wanting to study abroad, including wanting to leave their comfort zone and receiving international exposure. “Everyone who I had talked to who had studied abroad said that it was one of their best college experiences and highly recommended it. I wanted to be stretched and taken outside of my comfort zone, so I figured Africa would be a great place to be,” Schweitzer said. In some study abroad programs, students take classes solely oriented around the country or region they are in, such as in Uganda, where students take classes on African politics, history and religion. In other study abroad programs, however, students take a mix of country-oriented and general education classes. Along with academics, students who study abroad are able to learn more about themselves and their faith. “Study abroad students see a different perspective on the church,” Sommer said. “Each culture looks at the Lord a little differently and they will be able to see a different perspective that can add to their faith.” Living in a new environment pushes students in ways that uncover new facets of themselves. “One thing I have realized is that I have a strong desire to live comfortably ... God has been teaching me that Christ did not come to live a comfortable life, and being a Christ follower will not always be comfortable,”

Studying in the midst of conflict

Jerusalem program opens doors despite travel warning

By Mary K. Smith
Contributor

Six Taylor students are studying at Jerusalem University College (JUC) this semester despite Arab-Israeli tensions that have prompted a U.S. Department of State travel warning. In the past, Taylor University policy prevented students from studying in countries that were under a travel warning, according to Heather Sommer, Coordinator of Off-Campus Programs. Last year, senior Trey Sonnenberg received approval to attend JUC for the spring 2008 term. However, Sommer and Taylor administrators decided to cancel the trip to Israel, based on the travel warning. Although his initial plans fell through, Sonnenberg hoped to work out a plan

to attend JUC for this fall’s semester. “I asked the board to reconsider,” Sonnenberg said. Junior Eric Sague said he also persistently asked administration for the program to reopen. Thier efforts were finally rewarded and both Sonnenberg and Sague are studying at JUC this fall. It is the first time Taylor students will study at JUC since 2006. Taylor made an exception in the spring of 2006, which was the only time students were allowed to attend JUC since 2001. “I feel safer here than I do in parts of Dallas, where I live,” Sague said, “Overall, everyone – both Jews and Palestinians – are friendly to us. We are often invited to tea to discuss religion or politics.” “For students and faculty both, we feel the experience is so enriching,” said Biblical Studies professor Michael Harbin. “It is a quality program that brings the Bible to life.” With input from Sommer and other faculty members, provost Steve Bedi gave final approval for students to at-

tend JUC. JUC’s long-term partnership with Taylor made the decision easier, according to Sommer. JUC administrators adjust program travel as needed to ensure students’ safety, said Harbin, a member of the JUC Board of Directors. They consult with on-site directors before allowing students to travel in Israel, he said. “JUC is well-connected,” Harbin said. The school has maintained its program and has survived conflict in Israel since 1957. When Sommer researched international student insurance, she learned that no insurance restrictions applied to Israel. Sommer said this eliminated one of her primary concerns. She also found that students’ medical insurance would still apply in Israel. Schools similar to Taylor, including Wheaton College, Gordon College and Messiah College, have consistently sent students to JUC in the last several years. Sommer said she found a sense of security in knowing that.

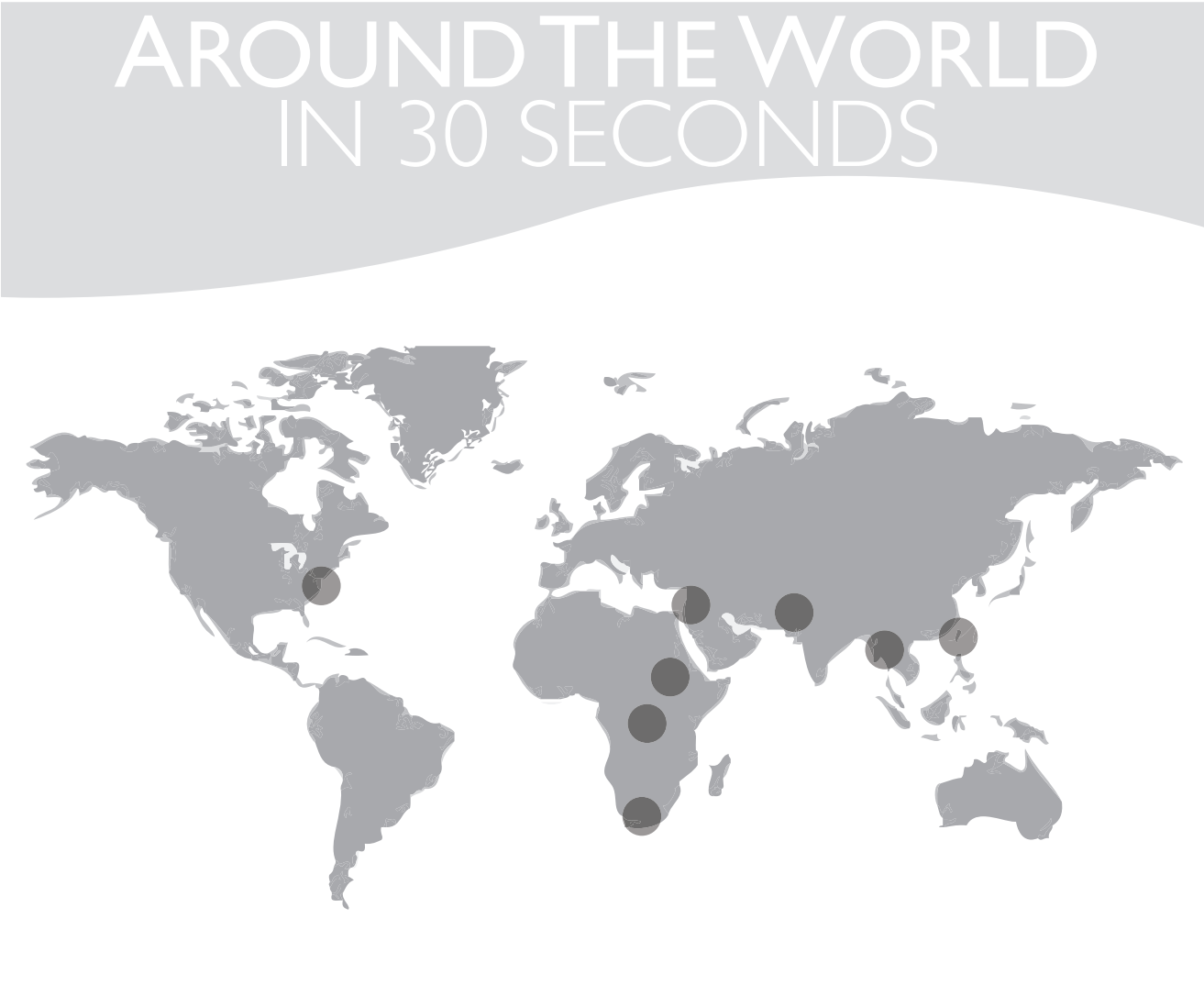
Schweitzer said. Several of the programs give students an opportunity to live with non-Christians. Kim said, “Studying abroad has challenged my faith in every way possible. Standing firm in my faith around the atheists, agnostics, Buddhists, etc. has been the hardest part for me. Talking to them and learning about them has helped me realize how great it is to have a living Father as my Savior.” Upon their return to Taylor, students are instilled with a heightened sense of confidence. “They feel that they can handle just about anything,” Sommer said. Traveling to a foreign country, away from friends and family, stretches students. It is a challenge to explore a new city and culture, Sommer said. Ingram encouraged students to consider studying abroad, saying, “I have learned that life goes by pretty fast, if you don’t stop and look around once in a while ... you could miss it.”

Study Abroad Programs

Australia Studies Centre	The program is designed for students interested in ministry and the arts. Students are required to take classes focused on Australian culture well as classes in the area of dance, design, drama, music, theology, or integrative studies.
China Studies Program	Students attendv at Xiamen University in the port city of Xiamen. The program focuses on the Chinese culture, language, history, religion, economy and geography. Students tour China as part of the program.
Ecuador Studies Program	This study program will be open to all majors starting in the fall of 2009. Students will live as a group for part of the semester and with a host family for the rest. The program will focus on studying South American culture. A science class and major-specific courses will be offered as well.
Hong Kong Baptist University	Students attend the only Christian university in China as they live in campus dorms with Chinese students. The program is offered to juniors and seniors.
Huron University USA in London	This program is offered specifically to junior business major and minors looking to experience international business. Students attend classes in central London and are placed in internships.
Irish Studies Program	Students study in the city of Greystones, staying at a conference center with other Taylor students. Irish study classes are the core classes offered through the program. The group also travels throughout Ireland during the semester.
Jerusalem University College	Students travel to Jerusalem to witness the land of the Bible. The program focuses on studying Scripture in the context of history, understanding the Arab-Israeli conflict, and experiencing modern and ancient cultures of the Middle East.
Latin American Studies Program	The program based in San Jose, Costa Rica gives students an in-depth perspective of Latin-American language, culture, literature, politics and religion. Students live with a Costa Rican family and travel for three weeks to nearby Central American nations.
Lithuanian Christian College	Students attend school in the port city of Klaipeda. Students live in two-room suites with three international roommates and travel to Latvia, Estonia and Russia.
Middle East Studies Program	The program based in Cairo, Egypt allows students to interact and discover the culture, religion and politics of the Middle East. Travels currently go through Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Israel-Palestine.
The Orvieto Semester	This program, offered through Gordon College, takes students to Orvieto, Italy in an art-intensive program. Students study the Italian language and the culture of the Italian renaissance in addition to taking art classes.
Russian Studies Program	Students experience Russian culture from the Russian heartland, Nizhni Novgorod, the country’s third largest city. Students stay with host families during the semester and travel to Moscow and St. Petersburg.
The Scholars’ Semester in Oxford	The program gives students an opportunity to study at Oxford University as a member of Wycliffe Hall. Students take the course “Christianity and Cultures” as well as two tutorials. This program is offered to juniors and seniors with a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average.
Semster in Spain	Students take classes taught in Spanish by native Spanish faculty in Seville, Spain. The program is offered through Trinity Christian College. Students live with host families.
Uganda Studies Program	Students study with the Ugandan Christian University Honours College, which consists of students committed to high academic standards and self-guided learning. Students are immersed in the culture, religion, history and literature of Eastern Africa.



“Man’s destiny was to conquer and rule the world, and that is what he’s done... almost. He hasn’t quite made it, and it looks as though this may be his undoing. the problem is that man’s conquest of the world has itself devastated the world. And in spite of all the mastery we’ve attained, we don’t have enough mastery to stop devastating the world... or to repair the devastation we’ve already wrought.”
- Daniel Quinn



Tensions rise in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) - Eyewitness reported that Angolan and Zimbabwean troops are on the ground in the eastern DRC. The regional tensions have raised fears of a repeat of the five-year Congolese war, which involved nine nations.

Ruling political party to split South Africa - Political battle lines are being drawn in South Africa as the ruling African National Congress (ANC) will split over the dispute between party leader Jacob Zuma and former president Thabo Mbeki.

International Criminal Court (ICC) seeks arrest of Sudan’s president Sudan - The chief prosecutor of the ICC has sought a warrant for the arrest of Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir for crimes of genocide and war crimes committed in Darfur.

Taiwanese ex-president arrested Taiwan - Former Taiwanese president Chen Shiu-bian was arrested under corruption allegations on Wednesday. Formal charges have yet to be brought against him. He claims he is being persecuted by his successors for his fierce opposition to closer ties with China.

Burmese jail sentences condemned Myanmar - Human rights groups and Western governments expressed their condemnation of excessive jail sentences given to pro-democracy protesters. Some of the sentences were up to 65 years.

United Nations runs out of Gaza food aid Gaza Strip - A U.N. Convoy carrying humanitarian supplies was stopped by Israeli military, which has caused the U.N. to run out of food hand-outs. Israel has stopped the flow of goods into Gaza for a week, citing the danger of rocket attacks by Palestinian militants.

Iranian diplomat kidnapped Pakistan - Gunmen kidnapped an Iranian diplomat and killed his guard in the north-western city of Peshawar on Thursday. On Wednesday an American aid worker and his driver were killed by gunmen in the same city.

World leaders convene to discuss new financial world order United States - World leaders from the most powerful economies will meet in Washington this weekend to discuss plans for the revision of the global financial system.



THE SWALLOW FAMILY

A Swallow Story

By Rachel Sawyer
Life & Times CoEditor

When a woman named Robin married a man named Swallow, no one had any idea their names would be immortalized in Taylor residence life and be involved in one of the biggest protests/upsets in university history.

Swallow Robin Hall is the oldest residence hall on campus. Built in 1916, the hall housed both men and women. Reverend and Mrs. Silas Swallow donated \$10,000 to have it built and decided to combine Mrs. Swallow's maiden name of Robin with their married name, Swallow, to give "the Birdhouse" its distinctive name.

For the first 50 years, residents of Swallow were both men and women. In 1966, the hall closed its doors to female (residents) and became an all-male hall, and later a "brotherhood." Housing just over 40 people, Swallow is the smallest dorm on campus, but that only adds to the family atmosphere. In the 1960s to 1970s, it became known as

Taylor's fraternity, Beta Sigma Rho, standing for Brothers Swallow Robin. Residents went so far as to put up the Greek letters on the side of the building where they remained for a number of years.

These men truly became a family, having a rare blend of upper and lower classmen, and they made themselves notorious across campus. But in 1986 one of the biggest rumors on campus became a reality: They were going to close down Swallow Robin Hall and turn it into a parking lot.

Swallow was a fire hazard. Lowell Haines, the vice president of Student Development and dean of students at the time, said that they should have closed down Swallow years before, but they needed the space due to a housing crunch. But by 1986, the conditions were becoming unlivable. "We'll use lounges before we open up Swallow again," said Haines. The pipes and electrical wiring were a hazard and the old balconies on either side of the building that were dangerously near to collapse.

At the end of the 1986 school year, Swallow Robin closed its doors. Due to students' protests and its rich history, they didn't bulldoze it



yet. After sitting desolate on the corner of campus, the board of trustees was persuaded to remodel this historical building instead of flat-ten it.

"Swallow renovation tabled" ran as a headline in "The Echo," in the fall of 1989, as the university was running into financial issues. The board was unsure if the adequate funds were going to come in to renovate Swallow, and a higher priority was placed on building an environmental science facility and completing the statues of Samuel Morris.

The phrase "all good things come to those who wait" definitely came into play for those faithful to Swallow Robin Hall. Finally, after a year of renovation and remodeling, the dorm was opened in 1992, becoming the new gem on campus. Welcoming both male and female residents, it seemed to be back to its original glory days from the 1930s and 1940s. And that is the dorm you see before you today, rich in history and family tradition, never to be duplicated, or turned into a parking lot.

Not so out of the ordinary

By Blake Bachman
Life & Times CoEditor

Perhaps the only thing stranger than me open housing last Saturday evening was the fact that I was open housing in Swallow Robin Hall.

You see, I haven't stepped foot in Swallow since first semester, freshman year, when my O-group leaders made us meet in the lobby of each person's dorm for O-group meetings. We met for about 30 minutes in Swallow's lobby one day, and I haven't been back since.

This fact isn't for any reason except that Swallow is just so far away. And to be honest, I've only recently met Swallowites ... and I'm a senior.

When we were figuring out what stories to feature for this week's Swallow Dorm Spot, we decided that we needed to revisit Swallow. We needed to pop in for an open house and soak up the ambiance. So, I did.

As I walked through the front doors and down the stairs, I was greeted by the friendly Swallow front desk girl. I continued through the lobby, and up the stairs.

The first floor, or SR1, is a girls floor. This floor was full of all the typical, but wonderful things that make up a female floor: flowers, quote boards, Bible verses, a calendar. One Swallow perk I immediately noticed is that each floor has a storage room for luggage, bikes,

boxes, etc. Did you know that? I didn't, either. I'm jealous.

I ventured up the stairs to the one and only guys floor: SR2 ... or, as they seem to be called this year, "Srii?" It seems that P.A. Jonathan Friday — a non-gamer — played off of the Nintendo Wii for this floor's creative theme. "Srii" is a self-proclaimed "unique communitii," displaying this theme through posters and bulletin boards with titles like "wii quote" and "swallow familii." I witnessed this community as I continued down the hall. At least three different rooms were packed with people, laughter and movie-watching.

The third and final floor is another girls floor: SR3. As I walked through some mardi gras beads, I immediately noticed a '70s theme, replete with lava lamp door signs and a sweet paper cityscape. Half-way down the hall, I peeked into the renowned "Moon Room," which is the huge room with the giant window in the middle.

At this point, I had reached the end of my first real Swallow experience. I walked down the stairs and out the door, marveling at the fact that it took me four years to actually visit the floors of Swallow. I'm not a big open houser, but for a campus of only eight dorms, I have to admit: it's a bit crazy. Even though my visit was brief, I witnessed that Swallow is a lot like every other dorm. I didn't get attacked with a nerf gun or spoken to in a different language. Instead, I saw a giant family living up a Saturday evening together.

SWALLOW MYTHS Busted

Myth: Everyone in Swallow carries a lightsaber and wears a cape.

Fact: Actually, there is not one single cape in all of Swallow Robin. None. Zip. Zilch. Zero. Nada. You have permission to check our closets. For real.

Myth: Most Swallowites are MKs or international students.

Fact: Though we do have some people with great accents, only about a fifth of the hall has joined us from another country.

Myth: Swallow girls are socially awkward "study buddies."

Fact: You should probably come over for open house sometime and actually meet one yourself. You'd be surprised how little we actually do homework — and how much fun we have.

Myth: The boys in Swallow are all nerdy computer science majors.

Fact: What's wrong with that? Though they're not even close to the majority, we do have a few of them — and they suddenly become really popular when the girls have laptop problems!

Myth: Swallowites only date Swallowites.

Fact: We call that "incest."

Myth: The ghost of former resident Jay Kesler still haunts the hallways of Swallow Robin.

Fact: Actually, Jay is still doing fine ... you might want to think about going to chapel more often. You can sit in our section. We're in the balcony.

Myth: Swallow Robin is off-campus housing.

Fact: Do you want us to hold your hand while you cross Reade? We just got a cross-walk painted ... so now you can safely visit us. See you tomorrow night!

Myth: Swallow has huge, carpeted rooms with high ceilings, air-conditioning, and central bathrooms with full-size bathtubs.

Fact: All true. It's as great as it sounds. University Apartments have nothing on us.

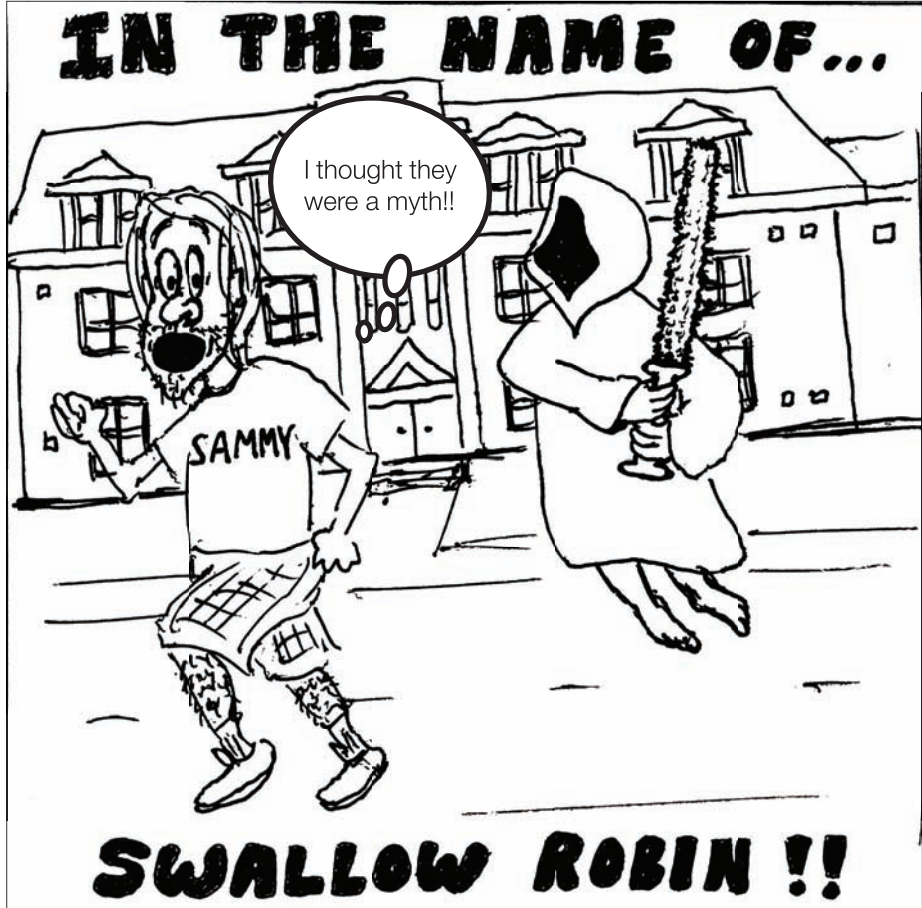
Myth: Swallowites don't get out much.

Fact: We probably don't "advertise" as well as some other dorms. But we judged you during MyGen auditions, we starred onstage and in-concert, we served you at the Grille, we passed you while we were giving a campus tour, we helped you out at Real Life, and we killed your intramural soccer team a couple of weeks ago.

Myth: Sometimes, Swallow seems like one big family.

Fact: Okay, this one is pretty much true.

- Jonathan Friday



By Kat McKeon & Lauren Wiest

When asked to write this article, the task was not only to talk about why we love Swallow, but also to help others experience what makes Swallow. Swallow. We thought about describing our annual breadstick eating contest, our all-hall camping retreat, or our semesterly Worship Breakfasts, but there's so much more to living in Swallow. Instead, we decided to take you through a Friday in the life of a typical Swallow resident.

5:45 a.m.—Wake up to the sound of pop music pulsing loudly in the bathroom and a massive group of people leaving for breakfast.

7:35—Haul tail to class in Nussbaum. Yes, it is that far, and yes, you do have to leave that early.

8:00—Introduce yourself to person sitting next to you. They ask you where you live; "Swallow," you reply. A look of amazement crosses their face. "Really? Swallow? I'm a senior, and I've only met, like, three people from Swallow."

Smile politely while secretly thinking for the millionth time, "There are only 70 of us on a 2,000-person campus. We're not anti-social ... just little."

10:00—Arrive at chapel and share a brief conversation with every single person in the Swallow section.

12:00 p.m.—Lunch time. Head through the line and approach a Swallow table. They have 15 people already, but when they see you, they detract and shuffle around the table to make room.

2:00—Back to Swallow. Pause to check mail and chat with desk worker.

4:00—Still chatting even after the desk worker has changed shifts (twice), but by now there's a conglomeration of Swallow people sitting on the stairs talking, so why leave?

4:05—Sammy boy walks in. Everyone on stairs turns and stares in curiosity.

4:05:07—Sammy boy exits.

4:30—The entirety of Second Swallow descends on the lounge, looking incredibly suspicious.

4:31—Birthday boy walks in and

is given the traditional SR11 rite of passage: a concussion, courtesy of the 25 guys who simultaneously tackle him.

4:40—Someone remembers that dinner time is nigh. Whole dorm exits.

4:59—Arrive at DC. Pack around tables.

8:30—Kicked out of DC.

8:45—Upstairs to Moon Room.

9:00—Open house is in full swing. Two random Sammy boys walk in and start admiring the window and waving to their companion outside, who is too frightened to come in.

9:02—Boys exit. No words exchanged.

9:10—Movie starts. Four people in room.

11:30—Movie ends. 70 people in room.

12:00 a.m.—Open house ends. No one notices, including P.A.

12:30—P.A. finally looks at a clock and makes the "open house is over" call. Party moves to the lounge.

12:40—Some first floor girls pull cookies out of the oven. They leave the lounge for one moment.

12:41—Girls come back. Cookies are gone. Everyone in the lounge categorically denies having ever

seen the cookies.

1:00—Desk worker asks all non-Swallowites to leave. No one moves.

1:15—Kelly asks us to be quiet.

2:15—Kelly asks us to be quiet.

3:15—Brad comes out and flexes his muscles. Quiet ensues.

5:45 a.m.—People leave for breakfast. Yes, we know it's a Saturday.

We could try to explain what makes Swallow so great — we could talk about how it is a place where originality is encouraged, unity is experienced, and life-long friends are made. We could mention how blessed we've been to have lived there.

But how do you describe to someone what it feels like to walk into a lounge full of people who genuinely care how your day was? How do you explain what it's like to live in such close proximity to the opposite gender that you can actually speak to them without visions of pick-a-dates dancing in your head? It's difficult to describe Swallow to you without you having seen it. But technically, you can — we're not that far away. So, Taylor University, this is your open invitation to come experience Swallow for yourself. You won't even see a lightsaber. We promise.



ECHO FACELIFT

By Rachel Sawyer
Life & Times CoEditor

Many of you might have been confused when you picked up The Echo today. "Wait, is this the right paper? It looks so different." Well, yes. The Echo underwent a facelift. After some divine inspiration and a lot of hard work, The Echo staff decided to step it up a notch and make the paper look real flippin' sweet. Not only is the paper now extremely aesthetically pleasing, there's also all sorts of new features. Here's what you can find.

On page one, we've got a new logo. Bring on the branding. Also, two additions for the person on the go: there are "In Briefs," which are short little news snip-its and weather, previewing the next three days. Instead of running circles through the portal or Taylor's main site, you can conveniently find a campus calendar on page two. For all of you culturally savvy people, in the A&E section, we now run three weekly reviews of a variety of artsy entertaining things, along with a pop culture quiz. So hopefully, everything with The Echo now will be a little easier on the eyes and mind. Let us know what you think, and keep reading.

facebook

Profile of the week

We're starting something new, everyone! In light of the heightened popularity and network-crashing power of Facebook, each week we're going to peruse Taylor network statuses and pick our favorites to print. Here are this week's winners.

Elena Forsythe is recounting to Libby the time she asked out a 28-year-old Mac Genius ... good times.

Nathan Puls needs to more carefully check the dates of Olson open houses before he finds himself on the 3rd floor wondering why the wing doors are all open ...

Katelyn Bennett is ready for physical chemistry to just mean the attraction she feels between herself and some future hotbod.



Dear Blake and Rachel, You are both foxy babes but I can't decide which one of you to choose. Please help me decide. Curious

Dear Curious, You just boosted our self esteem 50 points. As to who you should choose ... ever heard of double dating? Grab a friend. We hardly ever turn down free dinner and a movie. Facebook us. Looove, Blake and Rachel

Dear Blake and Rachel, What should I do if someone pooped on my floor? Violated

Dear Violated, Does your room happen to be located near the bathroom? If yes, this might be an understandable, though unfortunate, mistake. If not, then you may have bigger problems. We suggest booby traps.

Dear Blake and Rachel, I am becoming disheartened by my visits to the Well, not because of a lack of change in physique or endurance, but because of the more-than-occasional obnoxious stream of noise emitted by Well speakers thoroughly unsuited to such an environment. Do you know if there is a way to get such nonsense permanently banned from this fabulous establishment (specifically Relient K)? Completely Annoyed

Dear Completely Annoyed, Ever heard of an iPod and headphones? Christmas is just around the corner!

Remember: Send those questions to blakeandrachel@gmail.com! Ask a question, and we'll find the answer. We're like a magic eight ball, but better.



Kristie Suydam, Sophomore, Art Education
Vegetarian
Favorite sport is rugby — played in HS
From Amish Country, PA



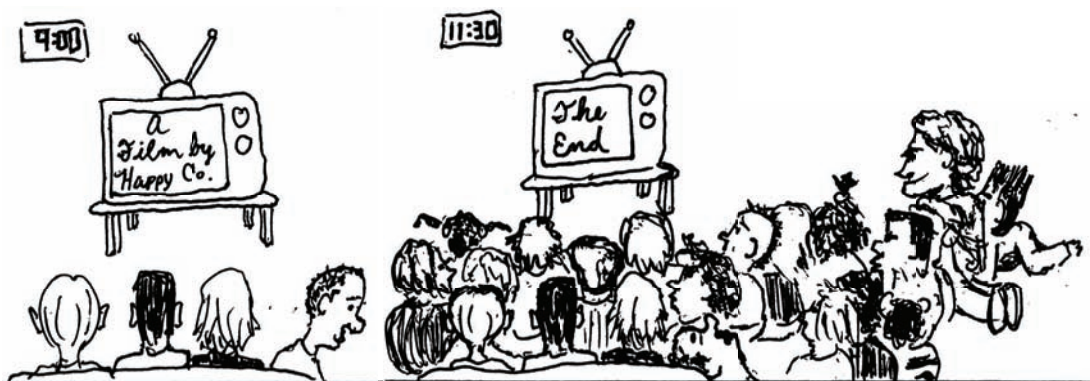
Shogo Matsuki, Freshman, Pre Major — leaning towards Engineering Physics
Japanese, but from Hong Kong
Likes to play sports — track and basketball are his favorites
Likes metal music



Caleb Carroll, Sophomore, Engineering Physics
Designs cars
From New Jersey
Likes country music
Once as a child while chasing pigeons he got run over by a bicycle



Gabriel Carrion, Senior, Biology — Pre Med
Designs cars
From Rockford, IL
Plays the bass
Can wiggle his ears



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BOOK FEATURE



David Yurkanin

By Andrew Neel
Editor in Chief

I make it a rule to be hesitant about reading books my parents recommend to me.

Sometimes, however, they jump on the right literary bandwagon. Case in point: “The Shack.”

Yes, “The Shack,” the ‘controversial’ book by William P. Young about a man who experiences a weekend with God.

It seems my parents weren’t alone in their praise for the novel. Young’s book has been at the top of the NY Times bestseller list for 24 weeks, and, with over four million copies in print and adaptations to other languages in the works, it seems “The Shack” will be a theological hot topic for some time to come.

Many Christians, however, aren’t comfortable with the book’s message or its success.

According to USA Today, Mark Driscoll of Mars Hill Church in Seattle has publicly spoken out against the doctrine in the book.

“If you haven’t read The Shack, don’t!” he said.

Driscoll isn’t alone in his position, as numerous other Christian leaders

have expressed concerns about the inclusive presentation of the Christian faith found in “The Shack.”

For every opponent, though, Young seems to have found a dozen fans, as the book’s popularity has only increased with the controversy.

The story’s success can be explained by its unorthodox look at faith in Christ, as it provides a relaxed view of religion that has resonated with countless readers.

The central character of this widely-discussed book: a man from the Pacific Northwest named Mackenzie.

Mack is a proud father and husband who is struggling to maintain his faith in light of The Great Sadness in his life, the tragic death of his daughter. He receives a mysterious note – seemingly from God – telling him to come to The Shack for the weekend. Although Mack is skeptical about the notes’ origin, his curiosity overcomes his doubt and he sets out for The Shack.

When Mack arrives at his destination, he is greeted by the Trinity, although the presentation of the three persons is beyond unconventional and will certainly catch readers by surprise.

Young then transitions the story

from a narrative to a series of conversations between Mack and God centered around different theological topics.

God talks to Mack about dealing with his Great Sadness and unforgiveness towards God and his father. The remainder of the book centers around Mack’s struggle to reconcile these issues with his rapidly changing understanding of God.

While the dialogue about spiritual understanding relates to Mack’s situation, it still feels forced enough to pull the reader out of the story and make them realize they’re reading theology, not a conversation between two characters.

That doesn’t mean Young’s theology is wrong. It just means that his presentation of it is far from subtle.

The book’s blatantly forced transition to theological discussions would feel more out of place were it not for the awkward tone already established in the rest of the story. Although Young has a good knack for describing scenes, especially outdoor settings, his dialogue is often so weak that it distracts from the story and its message. The characters – the members of the Trinity included – lose believability because of the painfully self-aware conversa-

tions Young wrote for them.

The other Achilles’ heel of “The Shack” is its ending. I won’t spoil the book for those who are interested in reading it, but Young resolves several of the major plot points – including one of Mack’s long suppressed emotional struggles – so quickly that it almost trivializes them.

After saying all that, however, I still have to recommend this book.

It’s not a particularly well-written story, and it’s not the most profound piece of theology I’ve ever read, but something about it grabs my attention.

I think it’s the combination of an admittedly powerful story – Mack’s struggle against The Great Sadness – mixed with Young’s obvious faith in God that make “The Shack” so captivating. It’s honest. Whether or not it’s theologically accurate is debatable, but no one who has read it can deny Young is honest about the book’s intentions and its message.

It’s that honesty that allows me to pass on a conditional recommendation from my parents to you: If you can get past the weak writing and theological controversy, I would advise you to see what’s in “The Shack.”

POPQuiz

What is the most influential source of media for our generation and how has it affected you?



Movies have made it nearly impossible for millions of people to live in the midst of reality. Our misconceptions on love, death, sex, and our sources of joy have been sand-blasted into our minds by years of media enhanced half-truths. Our ability to exist in realistic circumstances has been so deconstructed by cinema.

Justin Rutzen



Without a doubt, I take most of my ideas and thought patterns from what I’ve learned from watching movies. They are an incredibly powerful tool.

Brent Fannin

r3views

MUSIC



Myspace Band of the Week
myspace.com/theforecast

The Forecast (Peoria, Ill.) brings the flavor driving Indie rock. Driven by both male and female vocals, The Forecast’s sound mixes well with the harmonies of their voices. With nearly one and a half million plays on their Myspace page, the band has a large following. Their latest album, entitled “In the Shadow of Two Gunmen,” has numerous catchy songs that remind you of going to local shows as a high schooler. Perhaps their most energetic song, called “And We All Return To Our Roots,” talks about life becoming too crazy: “All I want / all I want / is a little place of my own / where I can rest my head.”

Josh Kennedy



MOVIES



House
Namesake Entertainment

This is the best way for Christians to infiltrate mainstream culture? If the R-rated Christian horror film “House” was the best effort Ralph Winter and friends could come up with, they might need to go to plan B. Or possibly plan L. “House” is based on the novel by well-known Christian authors Frank Peretti and Ted Dekker. If the novel is well-written, it’s hard to tell. The film buries the story in a constant stream of bad dialogue coupled with even worse acting. With scenes shot in the now cliché “Saw” style and an extremely forced gospel message ending, this movie’s \$2.5 million budget should have been sent to a third world country.

David Yurkanin
& Andrew Neel



GAMES



Far Cry 2
Ubisoft

In the sequel to the 2004 hit “Far Cry,” you step into the shoes of a mercenary sent to a war-torn nation in Africa with one goal: to kill “The Jackal” – an arms dealer who’s fueling the fire. Available for Xbox 360, Playstation 3 and PC, “Far Cry 2” is action-packed. Set in a 50-square kilometer load-free world, with the most realistic dynamic weather and fire ever seen in a video game. The game also features a robust map editor to design custom maps for multiplayer mayhem. “Far Cry 2” is a solid shooter that promises to offer over 100 hours of single play and unlimited multiplayer fun.

Jake Long



Patriotism to Nationalism



By Jenna McCullough
Columnist

It's great that our nation creates an abundance of explosives to celebrate our grand Fourth of July Independence Day – though, I think Japan has something going for their almost weekly firework shows in Sapporo. As our nation's other great holiday–Thanksgiving–approaches, I believe certain strongly held sentiments need to be addressed.

Ever since the American Dream of the 50s, it seems that there has been a general increase in nationalistic tendencies under the cover of “patriotism.” I don't think that it is necessarily approaching xenophobia, but our financial success until recently has supported an unhealthy materialistic society (of which I'm sure we're all aware) that causes some interesting reactions in people in regards to immigration and, in the Christian realm, missions. (I use the term “missions” loosely here, because there have been too many instances of imperialistic evangelism in which American evangelists have ignorantly entered into a culture with the expectations that all should fall down and repent in response to the ultimate truth that is dripping like milk and honey from their lips. The current social justice movement in the Church is attempting to repair that.)

When I hear my grandparents complain about Mexican immigration on the basis that the immigrants cannot

ever be considered “Americans” and therefore need to leave, I fear that the concept of an American has become an exclusive term, binding select people together in brotherhood while ostracizing newcomers.

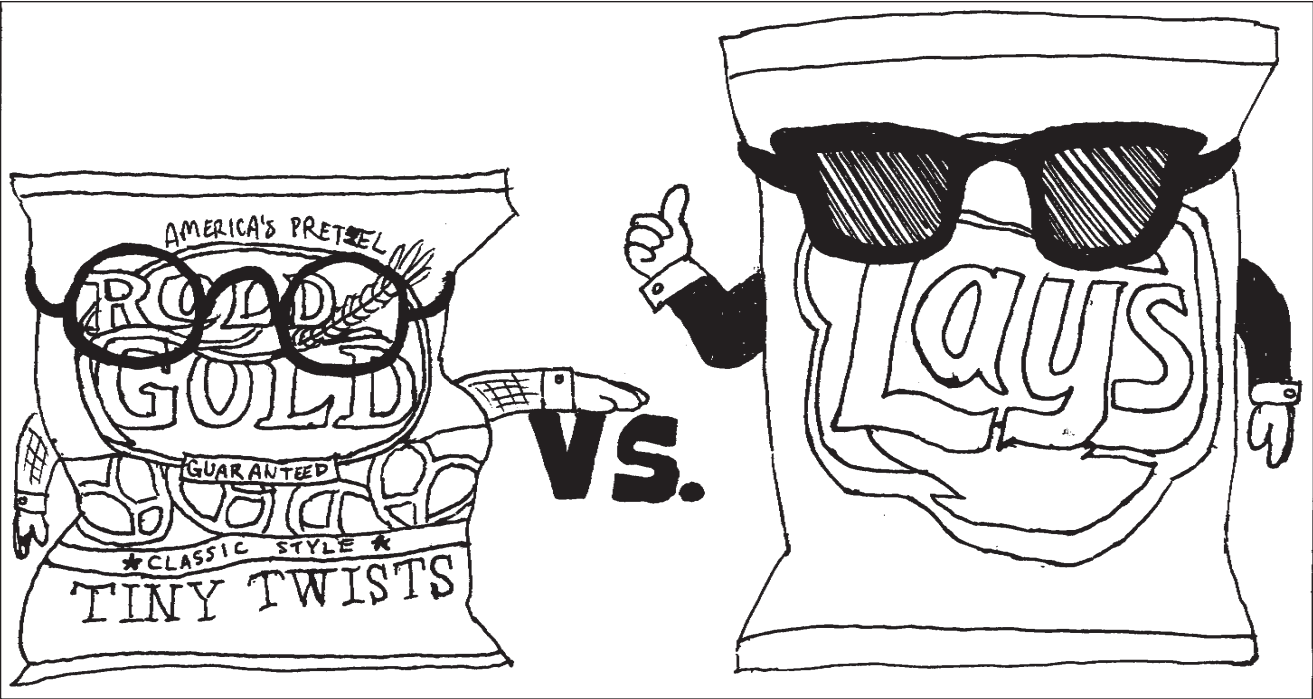
Would we do this in our churches? Heavens, no! Why would it ever be OK, then, to legalistically outcast immigrants – whether or not they are legal? Where do you think we all came from in the first place? Certainly we did not sprout out of the Mississippi – or the Mississinewa, for that matter.

We have become a proud nation, attempting to maintain the image of power that we held for so long. The time has come, however, for us to be humbled – China is on the rise. Before swearing oaths to red, white and blue and planning your daily wardrobe accordingly or decking your car in political bumper stickers, consider your concept of “America.”

The German metal band Rammstein seems to assimilate America to “Coca Cola,” of which the popular television show “Made in America” would be in full support. However, I think it much more notable to think past the materials of our nation and more about the people – their struggles, their triumphs, the diversity that is increasing and forming a unique nation while at the same time accepting our faults, failures and misconceptions of other societies that we might otherwise have foolishly deemed “lower” based on our limited perspective and twisted view of success.

By all means, be thankful for the freedom that we have and respect governmental authorities. Celebrate Thanksgiving with a fond backward glance to our founding pilgrims, but do it with a sense of humility.

Chips are better than pretzels



By Drew Demarest
Columnist

I wrote an article that got rejected by the opinions editor because it referenced my other two columns too much. He also told me that “The Echo” co-editors said I need to state my opinions more clearly and more quickly in my column. In this rejected article, I actually referred to the opinions editor and one of the co-editors as “fecal matter,” in so many words. Despite the fact that the comment was most likely another reason for rejection, I still must edit the words out.

Since I don't want to break any rules, I will now, after talking about many insignificant things, state my opinion on a very significant topic: Chips are better

than pretzels. I've been thinking about this snack battle quite a bit lately, and I am convinced that I am right, so I will state my opinion one more time: Chips are better than pretzels.

Chips have variety. You've got potato, barbecue, cheese, ranch, jalapeno, taco, sour cream and onion, sea salt and vinegar. The list goes on. Not only is there variety in taste but in texture as well. Ruffles master the ridges. Baked Lay's taste like crunchy air. Doritos' bumpy triangles never fail. Pringles' uniformity is like unto the U.S. military. Now I'm regretting not writing in “Pringles President for U.S. President” on my ballot.

I have to admit — I don't like ALL chips. I've never been a fan of ranch or sour cream and onion. To be honest, I don't like cheese either. I would never buy a red bag of Doritos if it were for me. But this distaste for some flavors only adds to the excitement. When I walk into Handy Andy, I hope beyond all hope that they still carry Fritos Honey Barbecue. If not, it's just a Polar Pop for me. Gas station runs become a risk. It's like gambling in Vegas, except

you're not eating the poker chips.

I don't have much to say about pretzels because there isn't much to say about them. Rold Gold. OK, do your thing, I guess. Awful bag design. If I traveled here from a snackless country, I'd expect that bag to be full of poop. Whether it's Rold Gold or Snyder's of Hanover, you'll just get your garden-variety. Not quite the variety you'll find in chips, unless you're eating Sun Chips Garden Salsa. Disgusting. They carry it at the Grille if you're curious.

The one good thing about pretzels is that they make your mouth so dry that you appreciate your drink more. But that doesn't really make the pretzel better in and of itself. One might raise the point that Frito-Lay owns Rold Gold. It doesn't change the fact that pretzels are pretzels and chips are chips.

There's my opinion about chips and pretzels. Take it for what it's worth. If you're a pretzel fan, that's all right; I won't hold it against you. There aren't really any rules. It's just your opinion that matters anyway. Right?

Computer science majors meet Communication Day



By Jessica Martini
Columnist

Today marks the third annual event of a little-known tradition called Communication Adventures Day.

On a day like this just two years ago, a brave group of young men set out to do a brave thing. These young men

were computer science majors, and they boldly accepted what you could call a “dare,” but it really was more of a friendly challenge.

For one whole day the volunteers agreed to the following: They avoided talking about computers, technology, mathematics and science of any sort. They abstained from video games. They initiated conversation with a specified minimum amount of people (male and female) with whom they were not well acquainted. And they also agreed to adhere to a list of acceptable conversation topics which they were allowed, and expected, to discuss. (These topics included: girls, memories, dreams, food and God.)

Understand now the weightiness of such a challenge. This isn't easy for everyone.

One volunteer in the pilot run CAD of 2006 said this about his experience: “It got me talking to people I hadn't talked to about subjects I never thought of before, such as cats, mortgage rates and my feelings.”

The emphasis, of course, would be on the final of these topics: feelings. Sure, this challenge was all in good fun with an air of silliness, but for some males, an invitation to talk about how they are feeling and their deeper opinions is a ticket into a whole new world.

My friend quoted above said, “I think it's beneficial for computer science ma-

jors who tend to be male and introverted.”

The drive for such a challenge may have come from two motivations, one philanthropic and one basically selfish.

The first motivation, the philanthropic one, was to allow some perhaps less social creatures to earn their wings in the community and to open up their minds and hearts to the rest of us.

The second motivation, the selfish one, came from some personal distaste for my own feelings of confusion or exclusion when topics such as programming would come up in dinner conversation among my dorm comrades.

That first year was a success, and it certainly sowed some social seeds, and, as another participant remarked, it was “good practice for real life.” Now, granted, last year's CAD (2007) was a bit of a bomb, but today is a new day. Today is

a good day to step out of the mold and be brave.

Since the pilot run, I have been challenged in turn. Along with a friend last year, I accepted a challenge to say (within reason and some appropriateness) whatever came into our minds. Extreme honesty. It's a bit scary, but it's also good reason to say some things you really want to say, but you usually justify not saying.

And then there was No Sarcasm Day, which was probably the hardest. I know I need a round two on that one. Let me know if you want to sign up.

As a lover of social experiments, I would promote such ideas to you. Even personal challenges that stretch us are commendable. But, overall, this one is going out to the original adventurers: Thanks David Colgan, Jesse Denardo, Seth Bird and Jeremy Erickson. Happy CAD 2008!

MAILBOX

Last week, hundreds upon thousands descended on Grant Park in Chicago to watch President-elect Obama deliver a speech that offered his token call for “hope” and “unity.” Still more watched in anticipation around the globe to see what many are calling the first “truly global U.S. president.”

I must admit two things before I go any further. A particular fascination of mine regarding elections is to watch people's reactions to the results. It never ceases to amaze me how one's true character can play out during an election season. Also, for fear of being labeled incorrectly, I will preface my following statements with the fact that I voted for John McCain:

What I saw in the post-election hours was appalling. Facebook profiles were changed to display statements like, “For the first time in my life I am not proud to be an American.” Claims of socialism, terrorism and racial division were proclaimed. Terrifying as it is, I have also heard rumors of O's being burned in retaliation. This disease is not just limited to McCain supporters but Obama fans alike. The division that I have seen on campus has truly amazed me.

It is ironic that this situation had occurred during WOW week when Krish Kandiah shared about the unity that Hutu Christians and Tutsi Christians had in Burun-

di even in the face of extreme tribal hatred. If I may be so bold, it is indicative of where true faith lies. This bitter political and social division is tantamount to faithlessness in the power of Christ's redemption.

When pathological fear grips you about any candidate being president of the United States, you are demonstrating an absolute refusal to trust God in his allowance of leadership. Have we completely written off WOW's message of reconciliation? Is the Bible something that is suitable for chapels and Sunday mornings, but not for politics?

Christ has the power to “reconcile all things to Himself” and has “made peace through the blood of His cross.” We must “continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast” and must not be “moved away from the hope of the gospel.” (Colossians 1:19-23, NKJV)

These are true words of hope, and is the “change we need” on campus in the realm of racial, spiritual and social reconciliation. I write not to condemn our campus, but to help bring about a vital change. We are called to love our neighbors and treat our enemies as ourselves. Do more than consider these words. Live them.

Zachary Eastburn

Send letters to the editor at steve_etheridge@tayloru.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday. They should be no longer than 400 words. Due to volume, we cannot print all opinions articles that we receive. Please keep your opinions as concise as possible. The Echo reserves the right to edit for length and content.

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Trojans advance to MCC Championship



Freshman Bethany Beck spikes the ball in Thursday's match against Goshen in the MCC semi-finals.

Timmy Huynh

TROJANSPORTS
weekly schedule

Football
(2-7, 0-5)
L, 15-29 at St. Xavier (#19)*
Upcoming Games:
1 p.m. Sat vs Walsh*

Volleyball (#18)
(31-7, 8-0)
MCC Tournament
First Round
W, 3-1 vs Huntington
Semi-Finals
W, 3-0 vs Goshen
Upcoming games:
MCC Tournament Championship
TBA Sat vs IWU

Cross Country
(Men 3rd of 9 at MCC Championships)
Upcoming meets:
NCCAA Championships
10 a.m. Sat at Cedarville U.

(Women 5th of 9 at MCC Championships)
Upcoming meets:
NCCAA Championships
(TBA) Sat at Cedarville U.

Basketball
(Men 1-1)
W, 83-37 vs OSU Marion
L, 59-56 vs Rio Grande
Upcoming games:
Lindenwood Classic
8 p.m. Fri vs Lindenwood
6 p.m. Sat vs Avila
7 p.m. Tues vs IU East

(Women #16, 4-1)
W, 73-61 at Illinois-Springfield
W, 70-59 at Missouri Baptist
L, 76-62 vs St. Francis (IL)
Upcoming games:
7 p.m. Sat at Cedarville (#RV)

* denotes MCC/MSFA match
(home games indicated in bold)

Taylor smashes past Goshen in three-game semi-final sweep

By Jordyn Kight
Staff Writer

The Trojans (32-7, 8-0) advance to the Mid-Central Conference championship match after defeating Huntington University and Goshen College this week in the Taylor-hosted MCC Tournament.

During the first match, the Trojans beat Huntington 3-1.

Taylor took an early eight-point lead in game one. Huntington picked up their play but could not keep up as the Trojans took the win 25-22.

In game two, the Trojans held the lead at 15-9 after two consecutive kills by sophomore Terra

White. Huntington fought back, holding Taylor 24-22. Not allowing Taylor game point, Huntington took the win 27-25.

Game three was a close fight for both teams. The Trojans picked up their intensity with an 11-1 run after the score had been tied 14-14, winning the game 25-15.

Huntington came out strong during the final game, taking the lead 17-10. Leading Taylor's offense, White had three straight kills and three aces during a 15-1 point run. Taylor finished the game 25-18.

"Singularly several players had stepped up and done an amazing job, but we weren't moving

toward anything together; it was just play," Head Coach Brittany Smith said. "Sometimes in the heat of those moments you just need something else to focus on, and they just needed 15 points."

White led the offense with 12 kills and a career high of six aces. Senior Anita Buckner finished with 39 assists, 11 digs and five blocks. Senior Ashley Zeigler recorded 33 digs and senior Jenny Peterson finished with seven blocks.

Moving into the semi-final match against Goshen, Taylor swept Goshen College in a three-game match.

In game one, both teams went back and forth with the largest

point deficit being four. As the game went on, the score was tied for the eleventh time at 22. Taylor then broke the tie and went on to win the game by a score of 25-23.

The Trojans took the initial lead in game two and held it the entire game. The team generated a strong offense and defense. Goshen was unable to make a comeback and Taylor took the game 25-16.

Reflecting the play of game one, game three started off with a tight score. With the score tied at 15, Taylor went on a 10-point run and quickly took the game 25-15.

Leading the attack, freshman

Kelsey Pritchard and sophomores Jackie Geile and Rachel Kizer finished the game with seven kills each. Geile also finished with 15 digs and Buckner led with 29 out of the team's 35 assists.

"Tonight was just about emphasizing that we need to play as a team," Smith said. "We have great leadership across the board, and we would not be where we are without that."

Taylor will play Indiana Wesleyan University in the championship match at Odle Arena tomorrow (Saturday). Start time is still TBA.

Lady Trojans can't bounce back after off-beat beginning

By Julia Berger
Contributor

If warm-ups were any indication of the games ahead, the women's basketball team (4-1) would have won against St. Francis (3-0) on Wednesday night. Unfortunately, the Saints did not allow that to happen,

and the game ended at 62-76.

As soon as the buzzer sounded, the team seemed off-beat. While the Trojans managed to take an early lead, they were unable to sustain it as St. Francis (IL) made their way past Taylor in the first half.

"Coming into the game, we

knew they would be a challenge for us, and we would have to execute our game plan," junior forward Bethany Ballard said. "We came out flat and never did find any kind of rhythm."

The Trojans, ranked 16th in the nation, have had a successful start to the season overall

and possess a lot of potential for the future.

"We know we can be a good team," sophomore guard Tasha Marshall said. "We need to work on our talking on the court and (on) working together."

As individuals, the team is extremely talented, as evidenced

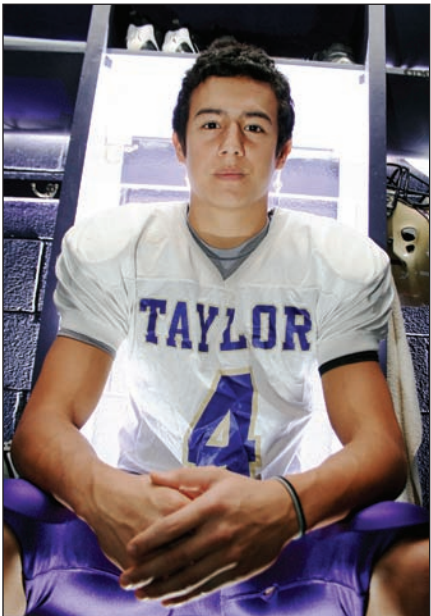
by each player's performance. In the coming games they will try to focus on working together on the court in order to create plays and more scoring opportunities.

"I felt we had some players come off the bench and contribute in huge ways," Head Coach Tena Krause said. "Even

though the outcome wasn't what we wanted it to be, as a coaching staff we saw some things out of our new players that we feel will definitely help us down the road."

The team looks to improve their record on Tuesday at Cedarville (#RV) at 7 p.m.

ATHLETEoftheWEEK
RYANMAGNUSON



Timmy Huynh

Greatest Achievement:
"I slept for 18 hours straight once."

By Carrie Bragg
Sports Editor

The season's opening for the men's basketball team resulted in a split-win weekend as the Trojans hosted Marian College, the University of Rio Grande, and Ohio State Marion in the Taylor Classic.

Rio Grande opened the weekend with a grueling 64-63 win over Marian College. The Trojans echoed success in their season opener against OSU-Marion, a team that completed last season with a record of 6-26, making it no surprise that the Trojans blew past them 83-37.

Daniel Cox led the team with 21 points and provided a 60 percent 3-point shooting record. Fellow seniors Alex Daniel and Jacob Bream followed his lead with 11 and 10 points, respectively. Justin Goeglein joined the pack with a contribution of eight rebounds, matched by Bream, and freshman forward Chris Robinson provided a solid seven rebounds and six assists in his premiere performance for the Trojans.

Saturday's second Classic game for the Trojans resulted in a last-minute 59-56 loss against Rio Grande. After sustaining a slim but solid lead throughout both halves, Taylor fell within

the last two minutes to an extra-point lay-in by the Red Storm's Brett Beuler.

The Trojans' downfall may have been in how many put-backs they let fall to the Storm, granting Rio Grande a tall 67.2 percent rebound record.

Alex Daniel took the lead in this lost game with 16 points and a perfect free throw percentage. His performance is matched with a clear perception on what went wrong.

"As a team we have to find better shots as the game narrows down. We need to get the ball inside and get an easy shot or get to the free-throw line," Daniel said. "That's what Rio Grande did to us and is the reason they came out with the win."

Head Coach Patterson felt confident in the team's preparation for the weekend but was disappointed with Saturday's loss.

"It was a winnable game, but we didn't do the necessary things for us to be successful like defensive rebounding and getting back in transition to set up our half court defense," he said.

Like any good coach, though, Patterson understands the importance of seeing struggles as opportunities for growth.

"This team will get much better as they learn to compete and



Timmy Huynh

Freshman Jake Burkholder (33) works to box out Rio Grande opposition as senior Alex Daniel (15) goes up for a lay-up during last weekend's Taylor Classic.

play for each other," Patterson said. "We want to be playing our best basketball at the end of the season, and to do that we have to respect the process and appreciate the struggle."

The Trojans will challenge

Lindenwood (4-2) when they travel to St. Louis, Mo. to compete in their Lion Pride Club Classic tonight at 8 p.m., followed by a match-up against Avila on Saturday at 6 p.m.